

# Everything about STINFO I ever wanted to know...: New Policy Concerning Use of Distribution F

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Posted by [Phyllis Bell](#) Jun 1, 2016

In August 2014, the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) issued a memo proposing to eliminate the use of Distribution statement F to promote the free flow of information within the DoD. As of April 28, 2016 there are new policies in place for the use of Distribution F. DoD Instruction 5230.24, "Distribution Statements on Technical Documents" now prohibits the use of Distribution F on classified or unclassified scientific and technical documents. However, distribution statement F may be used under rare and exceptional circumstances when specific authority exists, or when need-to-know has been verified.

The revised section also establishes new procedures for release of documents marked with Distribution F:

1. The controlling agency will be given 30 calendar days to respond.
2. If there is no response from the controlling agency within 30 calendar days, the document may be released to any DoD Component.
3. The marking on the document be changed to Distribution E.
4. DTIC will inform the controlling agency that the document was released and that the distribution code was changed.

If you have comments or questions, contact 1-800-225-DTIC (3842) and choose option 1 or email [[dtic.belvoir.us.mbx.reference@mail.mil](mailto:dtic.belvoir.us.mbx.reference@mail.mil)].

See the revised instruction at: [<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/523024p.pdf>]

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